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If you relish Coffee with that rich flavor and aroma try Rowat's, the finest procurable.  
70c POUND.  
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**DIAMONDS**  
A Diamond for a Christmas Gift. Beautiful Blue White Diamonds set in Platinum, white, green and yellow gold.  
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Diamond Merchants, Jewelers and Opticians.  
386 RICHMOND STREET.  
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We're just as particular with your looks as with your eyesight and are never satisfied until you look and see just right. Ours is complete specialized service.  
**Carlyle TREBILCOCK OPTICIAN**

**Wray's Jewelry**  
LIMITED.  
have the stock of Jewelry and Photographs at prices to suit all purchasers.  
234 Dundas St., London, Ont.

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**Taylor's Throat and Lung Balm**  
Has been the favorite household remedy for cough, cold and all bronchial affections. Sheer merit alone has made this medicine the standard cough remedy for over 50 years.  
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390 RICHMOND STREET.  
Half Block South of Dundas.  
Phone 594 for Trial Bottle.

**Quality Vulcanizing Only.**  
**ART WILKES**  
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**A "Red Bird" Bicycle**  
A REAL GIFT

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Finest Motor and Horse Equipment.

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Residence on premises. Phone 453.

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176-178 KING STREET  
Funeral Directors and Embalmers.  
Handsome Motor Car or Hearse Equipment.  
Day or Night Service.  
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MORTGAGES AND REAL ESTATE AGREEMENTS PURCHASED  
M. J. KENT, Manager.

**A Personal Service**  
In the event of a bereavement in your family the services of our modern Funeral Home will save you much anxiety and needless expense. For this up-to-date convenience, there is no charge.  
**A. L. OATMAN**  
Director of Funeral Service  
Phone 586. The Funeral Home.  
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**YEARS 66 YEARS ANNIVERSARY**  
**FUR SALE**  
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**OUR thought for you and yours on Christmas will be that you have the Merriest, Gladdest and Happiest of Christmas Days.**  
**PARNELL Baking Co.**  
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PROVINCIAL HIGHWAY  
**CRUMLIN**  
Refreshments of all kinds.

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CHICKEN DINNER.  
WEDNESDAYS AND SUNDAYS, 5 P.M. TO 9 P.M.

Provincial highway bus passes the Special arrangements made for parties and clubs.  
**MOTORS**  
OVERHAULED—REPAIRED.  
ELECTRIC MOTOR REPAIR CO.  
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**EMPLOYEES HONOR SARNIA MANAGER**  
Retiring Superintendent of Imperial Oil, Limited, Receives Gifts From Various Departments.

Special to The Advertiser.  
Sarnia, Dec. 22.—William J. Gilchrist, superintendent of Imperial Oil Limited, who retires from office at the expiration of the year, to be succeeded by Charles B. Lever of the Montreal refinery, was signally honored Thursday afternoon at the conclusion of the day's work. Hundreds of employees gathered to witness the presentation to him of a gold watch, inscribed, and a golfing set on behalf of the staff and employees, and a humidor presented for the board of directors, along with a letter from C. C. Stillman, Toronto, president of the company.

The presentations were made by Thomas Montgomery, chief engineer, at the refinery, with an appropriately worded address. At the close of the ceremony the employees gave three hearty cheers for the retiring superintendent.  
Testimony of a notably successful year, both from an academic and athletic standpoint, abounded at the commencement exercises of the Sarnia Collegiate Institute held in the school assembly hall tonight.  
In addition to the distribution of certificates, there were the awards won against outside competition, notably the oratorical trophy of Western Ontario won by Theodore F. Newton, and the chess trophy donated by the Sarnia Board of Education.  
The Ontario inter-scholastic rugby trophy was presented to the rugby team along with a cup donated by W. T. Goodison.  
The trophy for the Western Ontario girls' basketball competition, donated by The London Advertiser, was presented to the girls' team by Miss Anna Oakes.  
The senior and junior trophies to the team winners of the Western Ontario Athletic Associations were presented to the teams by Dr. A. N. Hayes, along with the senior and junior individual trophies won by Orville Johnson and George Simpson.  
The athletic record of the Sarnia Collegiate this year is unequalled for many years in the scholastic records of the province.

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## BRACKIN DECLARES RUMOR UNFOUNDED

Refutes Report That He Will Be Nominee of Essex Liberals.

### DECLINES TO STATE STAND

West Kent Member Declares Actions Will Be Governed by Convention.

Special to The Advertiser.  
Chatham, Dec. 22.—R. L. Brackin, M.P.P. for West Kent, when interviewed yesterday on his return from Windsor denied all knowledge of the report that he is likely to be the nominee of the Essex Liberals at a future Liberal convention to succeed Major J. C. Tolmie, the present member for Essex in the Ontario Legislature.

"No representations of any kind have been made to me," stated Mr. Brackin today. "I don't know anything about the rumor, nobody has ever approached me or made the suggestion to me in any shape or form."  
When asked to give a statement as to what would be his attitude in the event of an election, Mr. Brackin could give no intimation. "What I am expected to do and what I will do will be determined by a convention of the Liberals of Kent county," were his only remarks in reply to several questions.

Fire Chief R. F. Prichard declared this morning that he would have a special report to hand to the city council at its next regular meeting about the use of the pulmotor at the recent electrocution of a young man by a member of the city fire department. In an interview he declared that he had nothing to say at the present time regarding the alleged inability of members of his department to operate the same efficiently. "I promise to make reply to the criticism to the city council at the next meeting," he declared.

R. T. Stratton, local manager of the Bell Telephone Co., expressed indignation over the report of the jury which was made public concerning the alleged delay in getting a doctor at the fire hall following the accident. In a statement issued to the local press he declared the first call was for the police, but continued saying did not secure any response from the station. Later on the police chief was placed on the line, and the trouble was made known to him. He immediately called up the fire department, who sent the pulmotor out to the scene of the accident. In view of the efforts which were made and the trouble that the calls involved, Manager Stratton thinks it is unfair that the local exchange should be criticized in the manner it was by the jury.

## CANADA AND U. S. SIGN POSTAL PACT

Convention Effective January 1 Gives Effect To Agreement Reached At Parley.

Canadian Press.  
Ottawa, Dec. 22.—Word has been received here from Washington that the new postal convention which gives effect to the decisions reached at the international postal conference between United States and Canada, held at Ottawa on the 4th and 5th of the present month, has been signed by Postmaster-General Work and by President Harding.  
The convention was signed in Ottawa Wednesday, December 20, by Hon. Charles Murphy, and is now complete. The terms of the convention will become operative on January 1.  
The postal convention is an artistic document done in script on pages of vellum and illuminated by J. F. Champaigne of the state department, Ottawa.

**HARDING SIGNS.**  
Washington, Dec. 22.—The postal convention recently negotiated between Canada and the United States was signed today by President Harding and Postmaster-General Work, and thus becomes officially in force January 1.  
P. T. Murphy, private secretary to the postmaster-general of Canada, who brought the engrossed copies to Washington after they had been signed by Canadian officials, left for Ottawa today, so that the successful conclusion of the negotiations may be announced in Canada Christmas Day.  
Many new mail facilities between Canada and the United States are provided for in the new convention.

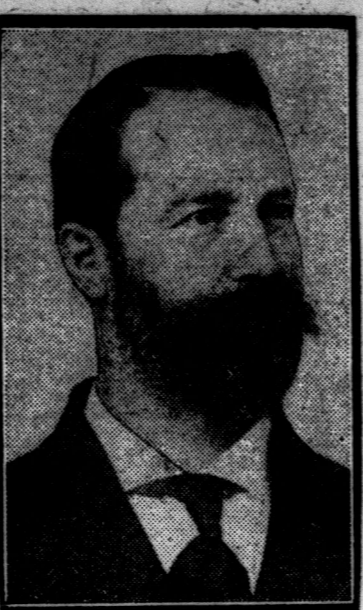
## SUNDAY SCHOOL CONCERT ENJOYED BY METHODISTS

Grace Methodist Sunday School Christmas concert on Thursday evening, Dec. 21, in the new church building on the corner of Hamilton road and Glenwood avenue. They were assisted in the program by the Ridout street orchestra, Miss Johnson's class and Master Harold Barnes from the Ridout Street Sunday School. The program, which was given to a capacity audience, consisted of songs, recitations, drills and orchestra selections. The scholars of the new Sunday school, which was organized only eight weeks ago, showed remarkable ability in the way they presented an excellent program.

The pastor, Rev. A. R. Stone, was the chairman of the evening.  
Santa Claus made his appearance shortly after 8 o'clock, and made the children happy by distributing the presents from a loaded Christmas tree. A very successful and pleasant evening was enjoyed.

## FRENCH SHOW INCREASE OVER PRE-WAR EXPORTS

Paris, Dec. 22.—(Canadian Press Cable).—The French customs return for eleven months of this year show that the exports were slightly higher than in the corresponding period in 1913. Alsace-Lorraine commerce figuring in the present returns, which, of course, was not the case the year before the war. This, considering the loss of trade in the devastated areas, still produces a favorable comparison. The imports have increased by 11,000,000 tons.



**WILSON CROCKETT,**  
Labor member of the Ontario Legislature for South Wentworth, is named in a writ alleging breach of promise filed by Mrs. Cordelia Wilkins, widow, of Highgate. Damages of \$25,000 are asked.

## CLERK AT GODERICH WILL APPEAL FINE

Hotel Employee Assessed \$200 and Costs For Breach of O. T. A.

Special to The Advertiser.  
Goderich, Dec. 22.—Police Magistrate Fred imposed a fine of \$200 and costs on Gordon Sutcliffe, clerk in the Bedford Hotel, who was charged with having liquor in other than a private dwelling.

The case was the result of the experience of a well-known citizen who went to the hotel. In the evidence of the defence it was shown that he was perfectly sober at the time he entered, but about two hours and a half later was picked up by the town police in the doorway of the same hotel in a helpless condition, when he was being forced out by the hotel employees.  
Crown Attorney Seager acted for Inspector Fellow, and L. E. Dancy for the defence.  
The case has been appealed.  
Three local young men also came before Magistrate Reid on a charge of perjury in connection with a recent liquor case, and through their solicitor Mr. Hayes, elected to be tried by jury at the spring assizes.

## POLICE HOLD FOUR IN MURDER CASE

Prisoners Will Be Charged in Court With Helping Winnipeg Slayer.

Winnipeg, Dec. 22.—Four persons, three men and a woman, will be arraigned before Sir Hugh Macdonald in the police court tomorrow morning on a charge of aiding and abetting John Stanton, an ex-convict of many aliases, for whom an arrest warrant has been issued on the charge of murdering John Penny, aged 75, last Monday night or early Tuesday morning.  
A reward of \$500 has been offered for Stanton's arrest. Annie Selman, who, according to the police, lived at 527 Young street, where Penny was murdered with a claw-hammer, is one of the four charged with aiding and abetting.  
Dick Searle, and the two others known as "Happy" Horton and G. R. Mitchell, will face the same charge, police officials stated tonight.

## MARITIME COLLEGES MAY BE FEDERATED

Presidents of "Bluenose" Universities Conclude Conference on Question.

New York, Dec. 22.—Presidents A. S. MacKenzie of Dalhousie University, Halifax, N. S.; Stanage Boyle, King's College, Windsor, and Rev. E. C. Borden, Mount Allison, Sackville, N. B., yesterday concluded a conference with officials of the Carnegie Corporation concerning proposed federation of the universities and colleges of the Canadian Maritime Provinces.  
They planned to leave New York today for their homes. Officials of the Carnegie Corporation refused to state whether any decision had been reached as a result of the conference, claiming that no information could be given until after the Canadian university heads had reached their homes.  
The general plan for the federation of the maritime universities was for a central university in Halifax, outside institutions to move there and become affiliated with the central body.

## THREE ENTER CAMPAIGN FOR TEESWATER REEVE

Teeswater, Dec. 22.—Nominations for Teeswater and Culross municipal councils were held today. The following will seek election:  
Teeswater—Reeve, A. L. Strome, A. W. Little, G. H. Linklater; councillors, J. J. Reid, Wm. Rome, Geo. Baptist, S. E. Jeffery, K. M. Kenzie, A. L. Strome; school trustees, J. M. Steele, G. K. Brown, G. H. Linklater, S. E. Jeffery.  
Township of Culross—Reeve, D. McDonald, J. G. Erb, G. Falconer (retiring); councillors, R. Colvin, J. D. Meyer, J. G. Moffat, J. Ireland, W. Case, J. D. Kuntz, J. Johnstone, W. Becking.  
A vote on the Teeswater and Culross war memorial will take place on the polling date to ascertain the form which it will take.

## EX-PRESIDENT IMPROVES.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Chief Justice Taft yesterday continued to show improvements from the effects of his recent operation. Beginning today, he probably will be able to devote some time to the writing of supreme court opinions at his home here, but his doctors have recommended that he do little work during the next ten days.

**STORE OPEN TONIGHT TILL 10.**  
Orchestra, Main Floor Balcony.  
Monday, Christmas Day, store will be closed.

**CHRISTMAS DINNER TODAY**  
Roast Turkey and Plum Pudding.  
11:30 to 2, 65c  
Supper 5:30 to 7:30, in Restaurant, 50c.

## Bedtime Stories—the Christening of Santa Claus

ONCE UPON A TIME, there lived a very little, old man who loved children, and was always very kind to them. He went about all the time trying to do good, and was only happy when he was helping someone, but his kindness was extended more particularly to children, who grew to be very fond of him. At the time this story was written, this dear old man was very ill. It was feared he would die, and the whole community felt very bad, as they did not know how they would get along without their dear old friend. A good angel came along one day and bargained with him, telling him that if he would change his name and spend all his time looking after all the children in the world, making them happy and good, his life would be spared, and he would live forever. Imagine the joy of this dear old man to be given the whole world as a field for the work he loved so well, and that joy to last forever. The little old man rose from his bed, the good angel christened him "Santa Claus," and he is still carrying on his mission among his good children in all parts of the world.

**Santa Claus Will Come On Christmas Eve**  
and he requests that when you have heard your bedtime stories that you go to bed very early and do not stir until morning—but you may get up just as soon as daylight comes—and don't forget to hang up your stockings.—A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

See Monday's Paper For After-Christmas Sales.

**SMALLMAN & INGRAM LIMITED**

See Monday's Paper For After-Christmas Sales.

**WISHES POSTMEN MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
Hon. Charles Murphy Sends Seasonal Greetings To Workers Throughout Dominion.  
Canadian Press.  
Ottawa, Dec. 22.—Hon. Charles Murphy, postmaster-general of Canada, has sent the following Christmas message to the postal workers of the Dominion:  
"At this season of the year the public realizes that it is through your devotion to duty and your unremitting toil that the spirit of the age-old message 'Peace on earth, good will to men' is diffused throughout the land. Allow me, then, to give voice to the gratitude of your fellow Canadians by wishing each of you a Merry Christmas, and with all of you let me join in repeating the words of Tiny Tim: 'God bless us every one.'"

**Believe Oldest Twins in Dominion Live at Tecumseh, Aged 87 Years**  
Windsor, Dec. 22.—James Mero and Mrs. Katherine Russette, brother and sister, residents of Tecumseh, who celebrated their eighty-seventh birthdays Wednesday of this week, are the oldest living twins in the Dominion. It is believed.  
The venerable couple were born at Tecumseh within a stone's throw of where they are now living today. Their father was the late John Mero, who also was born in Essex county. The Mero family has a remarkable record for longevity. The twins have two brothers and a sister who have passed their eightieth birthday.  
Mrs. Russette is the mother of 10 children, all living. In addition to this she has 53 grandchildren and 75 great-grandchildren.  
Mr. Mero is a former hotel proprietor. For more than thirty years he owned a hotel in Sandwich East township. It is one of his proud boasts that although he dispensed all kinds of refreshments during that period he has never tasted liquor himself. Neither does he know the taste of tobacco.

**PLAN PROTECTION OF IRISH RAILWAYS**  
Government To Build Block-houses Along Tracks, One Mile Apart.  
London, Dec. 23.—In view of constant train-wrecking in Ireland, the Irish government will establish along the railroads a system of blockhouses similar to those erected by the British during the South African war, according to a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Dublin. The blockhouses will be a few miles apart. Each will be garrisoned by from fifty to one hundred men who will patrol the territory intervening between them.  
The dispatch adds that orders have been issued that any unauthorized persons in the neighborhood of the railways henceforth shall be shot on sight.

**COMMERCE BANK SHOWS BIG PROFIT**  
Toronto, Dec. 22.—Profits of the Commerce Bank of Commerce for the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1922, were maintained, as is shown by the annual statement just issued.  
The total was \$3,062,345, as compared with \$3,116,136 the year previous. As the balance at the credit of profit and loss account brought forward from 1921 was \$1,946,745, the total amount for various appropriations was \$4,949,150. Dividends at the rate of 12 per cent per annum and a bonus of one per cent absorbed \$1,950,000, while government taxes took \$225,000, and the sum of \$400,000 was written off bank premises.  
After transferring \$176,687 to pension fund account, the balance carried forward into the current year was \$2,097,502, as compared with \$1,946,745 the year before.

**FINED FOR ILLEGAL STRIKE.**  
Canadian Press Cable.  
Sydney, N. S. W., Dec. 22.—The industrial court has fined the New South Wales divisions of the Federal Iron Workers, Assistants and the J. Alchemers 2220 each on the ground that they participated in an illegal strike.

**CONVICTED OF WIFE KILLING.**  
New York, Dec. 22.—A jury yesterday convicted Abraham Becker, a chauffeur, of the murder of his wife, Jennie, missing since last April, whose body recently was found buried in the auto repair yard of Becker's friend, Reuben Nordkin.